

**BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL
NOTES TO THE AGENDA
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2020**

Issued: May 12, 2020
Work Session: None
Legislative Day No. 12: May 12, 2020

*The accompanying notes are
compiled from unaudited
information provided by
the Administration and
other sources.*



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL

May 12, 2020

NOTES TO THE AGENDA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
LEGISLATIVE SESSION	
Witnesses	ii
<u>BILLS – FINAL READING</u>	
Bill 49-20	1
<u>FISCAL MATTERS</u>	
None	
<u>MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS</u>	
None	
APPENDIX	
None	

BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL AGENDA
LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2020, LEGISLATIVE DAY NO. 12
May 12, 2020 3:00 P.M.

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

CEB = CURRENT EXPENSE BUDGET
BY REQ. = AT REQUEST OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Page

CALL OF BILLS FOR FINAL READING AND VOTE

WILL ANDERSON, DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC & WORKFORCE DEV.

- 1 Bill 49-20 – Mrs. Bevins (By Req.) – Baltimore County COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grants Program –
Emergency Measure

Bill 49-20**Council District(s) All**

Mrs. Bevins (By Req.)

Department of Economic and Workforce Development

**Baltimore County COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grants Program –
Emergency Measure**

Bill 49-20 creates an exception to the 14-day notice to the County Council required before a small business grant may be approved after recommendation of the Grant Administrator and the Director of Economic and Workforce Development. This bill is an emergency measure, and the authority it grants is temporary and will automatically expire 60 days after the County Executive declares an end to the local State of Emergency.

Under non-emergency circumstances, certain grants provided by the County, including Economic Development and Workforce grants for small businesses, are governed by the procedure set forth in Article 3, Title 10 of the County Code. A Grant Administrator, appointed by the County Executive, receives and summarizes grant applications for the County agency administering the program from which the grant funds are being made available; the agency must review the summary in accordance with the procedures and criteria established by the Grant Administrator. The grant summary must include information such as the identity of the applicant, the grant amount, the proposed use of the funds, conditions for acceptance, and the source of the grant funds.

As set forth in Section 3-10-103(e), before a grant application may be approved, the Grant Administrator must forward a recommendation for approval, along with a copy of the grant application and summary, to the County Council, the Secretary to the County Council, and the County Auditor. If, within 14 days after receipt of the recommendation, no member of the Council requests in writing that the grant agreement be put before the Council for a vote, the Grant Administrator may approve the grant.

Bill 49-20 does not change this procedure. Instead, the bill sets forth in the uncodified Section 2 that the Grant Administrator may approve grants for the Baltimore County COVID-19 Small

Business Relief Grants Program immediately upon approval of the Director of Economic and Workforce Development, without complying with the requirements of Section 3-10-103(e). Further, the uncodified Section 3 requires the Director of Economic and Workforce Development to keep a log of all grants issued under the authority of Bill 49-20, which must be disclosed to the County Council no later than 90 days after the end of the local State of Emergency.

The County Executive recently announced a \$10 million fund established for the Baltimore County COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grants Program, which will award grants of up to \$15,000 each to more than 650 Baltimore County-based small businesses that have been impacted by the pandemic.

With the affirmative vote of five members of the County Council and signature by the Executive, Bill 49-20 will take effect from its date of enactment.